

Dear Senators and Representatives,

Please see my testimony below.

**I SUPPORT HB 5416 (Section 2) The ban of gestation crates.**

These animals must be treated humanely. Placing them in gestation crates is very cruel. They are placed in crates for several years and are constantly being forced to reproduce. Animals feel discomfort and pain just as humans do. It is especially cruel to place a pregnant animal in a cage. They are uncomfortable and can not move around to get comfortable. They should be either free to roam on land or in large indoor pens where they are able to walk around freely and have lots of space.

**I OPPOSE HB 5080 which allows Sunday hunting.** I feel that Bow hunting should be banned in the U.S. It is very cruel. Hunting deer does not control the population. I feel that there are better ways to control the deer population in CT. There should be a form of contraceptive that can be given to deer to help control the population.

**I SUPPORT S.B. 445 the "Puppy Mill Bill". In addition to this bill, I also SUPPORT additional requirements that should be included in this bill. The additional requirements are as follows:**

- 1) All new pet shops shall not sell commercially-bred dogs**
- 2) For current pet shops, a phase-out of the sale of commercially-bred dogs**

I feel that the dogs in most puppy mills are treated very inhumanely. The Federal Animal Welfare Act outlines MINIMUM standards of care for dogs and cats bred for commercial resale. That is NOT enough to protect these animals from mistreatment. No animal should be confined in this manner. They should be able to live their lives comfortably and not be forced to continually reproduce without any regard for their health or well being. These dogs are in these cages 24/7.

I am asking you to please SUPPORT Bill HB 5416, the ban of gestation crates.

I am asking you to please OPPOSE Bill HB 5080 which would allow Sunday hunting.

I am asking you to please SUPPORT Bill S.B. 445, the "Puppy Mill Bill" which would ban the sale of commercially bred puppies in new pet shops and to also phase-out their sale in the pet shops in CT that sell them now. I think that pet stores should only sell dogs that are rescue dogs of public shelters or non-profit rescue groups. Most pet stores in CT do NOT sell dogs.

**ANIMALS HAVE NO VOICE.....WE NEED TO BE THE VOICE OF ANIMALS. PLEASE HELP IN STOPPING THE CRUELTY THAT EXISTS FOR THESE ANIMALS.**

Thank you.

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